



MARTYRS NEWS

Through Christ we believe, inspire, achieve.



Nursery children enjoying their first sports day!



We have had another brilliant year of sports days and the best weather possible! The feedback from all events were that the children enjoyed them and a big thank-you to the PTA for providing refreshments for the families attending. Thank you also to Ultimate Kids for all their hard work.

Today I have written to all families a letter which thanks all of our teaching staff. This week was **Thank a Teacher Day** on Wednesday. Here at English Martyrs, we are blessed to have such a wealth of experience and commitment to our school and children. I've worked out that the combined total service of all teaching staff is **690 years and 31 days!** This is quite a remarkable statistic and one we should be very proud of. I am sure you will join me in showing our appreciation for the whole staff team.

This week, I attended the funeral of a past teacher, Mrs Veronica 'Ronnie' Mulcahy who taught here at English Martyrs for several decades. It was a lovely tribute to her life and Mrs Pat O'Brien and Mr Andy Windsor along with many other past staff members were present too. *Eternal rest grant unto her O Lord, and let perpetual light shine upon her, May she rest in peace. Amen.*



**Be safe, be happy,
have fun!**

Events:

| Date: | Time: | Event: |
|----------|---------|------------------------------|
| 22nd Jun | 9.00am | Y5/6 End of Topic Y5 invited |
| 23rd Jun | 9.00am | Yr2 Liverpool Trip |
| 25th Jun | 9.00am | Yr5 Crucial Crew Trip |
| 25th Jun | All day | Y6 Sec Transition Day |
| 26th Jun | 3.30pm | PTA Summer Fayre |
| 26th Jun | 10.00am | Nursery Fire engine visit |
| 7th Jul | All day | Y3 Ancient Egypt Day |
| 9th Jul | 6.00pm | Y6 Summer Production |
| 10th Jul | 10.00am | Y6 Summer Production |
| 13th Jul | 10.00am | Y6 Leavers Mass |

Please check the website for a full list of events

Attendance Matters!

Our school target is **95%+** and we are currently at **95.3%** so far this year, which is really positive!

Fabulous

FRIDAY FIVE

Class Attendance:

1st RB - 98.8%

2nd 1A - 98.0%

3rd 2B & 5B - 96.3%

Holiday Requests

We ask that Parents/Carers complete a Holiday Request Form each time a holiday is taken during school term. You can obtain this form from the school office or on our website: [here](#). From this link you will find details of The Government's Fine Policy - [holidays in term time](#).

MARTYRS NEWS

Nursery

By Mrs McIntyre & Mrs Garvey

The children in Nursery have lots of fun with puzzles. Some children have even created their own jigsaw puzzles using photographs, pictures and cereal boxes to share with their friends.



Reception

By Mrs Morris & Mrs McMeakin

Today we received a letter from some very evil peas who were on the loose in our classrooms. We decided to design a trap to catch them and asked the children to come up with their own ideas and to make them in the classroom. The children loved this activity and rushed to provision to have a go at making their traps.



Year 1

By Mrs Halsall & Mrs Blackledge

The children in year one enjoyed their trip to Knowsley Safari Park. They were excited to see lots of different wild animals, watch the sealion show and go to Safari School! The children had a chance to learn about how animals survive in the African Savannah and the importance of caring for our planet and all living things.



Year 2

By Mrs Sothern & Miss Drinkall

Year Two had a fantastic time at Sports Day on Tuesday. In teams they completed a sack race, sprint, howler and water challenge. The teachers had great fun squirting the children as they tried to fill up their buckets. Well done to all the children for taking part and to the coaches for organising it.



MARTYRS NEWS

Year 4



By Mrs O'Connell & Mrs Lowe

This week, our Year 4 restaurant has been open for business, as our budding Year 4 chefs have been busy making Mexican pasties! The children made their own pastry from scratch and then created a delicious, healthy filling made with vegetables and passata. Year 4 really impressed us with their culinary skills, from rubbing the butter into the flour to create the pastry to carefully filling and constructing their pasties. We hope they enjoyed their yummy creations!



Year 5

By Mr Buckton & Miss Gray

What a brilliant afternoon the children had at Sports Day! Well done to everyone for their brilliant effort



Year 3 & 6 Golf

By Mrs Garvey

Well done to the children who took part in the Golf Sixes competition yesterday at Aintree Golf Centre. Both year groups did fantastic and came second place.



School Council Poster Competition

Last week, I met with the School Council to judge the poster competition for Dog Littering outside school. The children found it hard to just select one design, but there was an overall winner, Mason in Y6A and the runner up was Teddy in Y3A.



Outstanding Payments

Please can we remind you that Dinner Money, Breakfast Club and Nursery Fees need to be cleared **before the end of this academic year Thursday 16th July**. If for any reason you are struggling to do this please come and speak to the school office as soon as possible.



MARTYRS NEWS

STAR OF THE WEEK

Friday 12th June 2026

Friday 19th June 2026

Nur All Day

Phoebe

Nur All Day

Thomas

Nur AM

Chukwuagoziem

Nur AM

Archie

RA

Archie

RA

Jude

RB

Elias

RB

Jude

1A

Joseph

1A

Gracie

1B

Jude

1B

Clancy

2A

Alby

2A

Edie

2B

Arlo

2B

Jack

3A

Charlie

3A

Oscar

3B

George

3B

Theo

4A

Samuel

4A

Ethan

4B

Harris

4B

Ivy

5A

Roman

5A

Emily

5B

Penelope

5B

Erysse

6A

Iris

6A

Lucas

6B

Joseph

6B

Francis

Golden Pen

KEY STAGE 1
Reuben - 2B



KEY STAGE 2
Rosa - 4A

Be a writer

KEY STAGE 1
Sophie - 1A



KEY STAGE 2
Phoebe - 6A

ALLUMNI NEWS!

We love staying connected with our past pupils and hearing how they are doing and what paths they are following. This week we received some amazing news about three of our alumni.



Past pupil, **Josh Clague** has just signed his professional football contract for Wigan Athletic! We wish him all the best for the future season ahead and many years of fantastic football to come!



Past pupil **Erinn Harrison** decided to attend London Metropolitan University for Theatre and Performance...she graduates in July this year. She is planning to remain in London and search for work. Watch out for her appearing on the screen or stage soon!



Past pupil **William Harrison** taught himself to play the guitar and is now a student at LMA (Liverpool Music Academy) he's has just performed live on stage for his year ending show, he auditioned for LMA university a year early and has been given a conditional offer! Well done William!



Well Done Everyone!





GOOD NEWS!

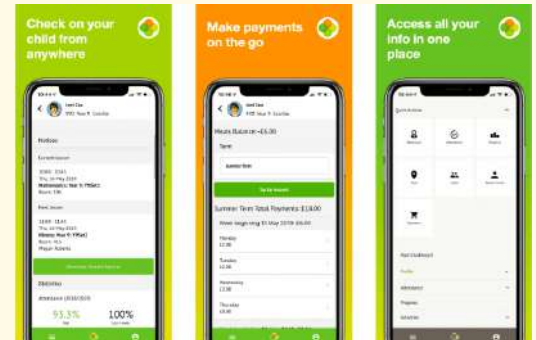
Well Done Everyone!



MARTYRS NEWS

Communication and the Arbor App:

A number of parents are reporting that they have missed important messages from school, even after they have been sent out. Please see the info below to ensure you never miss an important message from school. **Arbor is our MAIN communication tool** and allows us to keep in touch with each other. so it is important that it is working properly for everyone. Any issues, contact the office.



Enabling Notifications in the Arbor App:

Enabling Push Notifications (Step-by-Step)

Initial Setup: When first installing the Arbor App, click "**Allow**" when prompted to receive notifications.

Android Devices: Go to your phone's **Settings > Apps > Arbor > Notifications** and toggle push notifications **ON**.

iOS Devices (iPhone): Go to **Settings > Notifications > Arbor** and ensure "**Allow Notifications**" is **enabled**. It is recommended to set your banner style to "**Permanent**".

Troubleshooting Notifications

If you are not receiving messages:

Check In-App Settings:

Ensure you are checking the messages section within the app, which highlights new, unread messages in bold.

Restart & Reconnect:

Close the app, switch off notifications in your phone settings, restart your phone, and then turn the notifications back on.

Reinstall:

If notifications still do not appear, uninstall and reinstall the app.

Why Notifications Matter in Arbor

Message Alerts:

Enables immediate alerts for in-app messages sent by the school, which are used to reduce reliance on text messages.

Updates:

Alerts you to updates regarding attendance, clubs, trips, parent evenings or information requests.

Primary Guardian Access:

Note that only primary guardians can receive these notifications.

Helping families to understand the changes for term time holidays

With the introduction of the new National Framework for Penalty Notices, the following changes have come into force for the Penalty Notice Fines issued for unauthorised holidays recorded by schools after 19th August 2024.

WHO MAY BE FINED?

Penalty Notice Fines are issued to each parent who allows their child to be absent from school.

For example: 3 siblings absent for term time leave, would result in each parent who allowed the holiday receiving 3 separate fines.

NATIONAL THRESHOLD

There will be a single consistent national threshold for when a penalty notice must be considered by all schools in England of **10 sessions (5 school days)** of unauthorised absence in a rolling 10 school week period.

These sessions do not have to be consecutive and can be made up of a combination of any type of unauthorised absence, including the **U code** (late after registers).

For example: a 5-day holiday would meet the national threshold. The 10-school week period can span different terms or school years.

HOLIDAYS IN TERM TIME

FIRST OFFENCE:

The first time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised term time holiday the fine amount will be:

£80 per parent, per child if paid within **21** days.

£160 if paid between **22-28** days.

SECOND OFFENCE: (Within 3 years)

The second time a Penalty Notice is issued for an unauthorised absence amount will be:

£160 per parent (*who allowed the holiday*) per child, payable within **28** days.

THIRD OFFENCE: (Within 3 years)

The third time an offence is committed a Penalty Notice is not issued. Cases may be presented before a Magistrate's Court. Prosecution may result in a criminal records and fines of up to **£2,500**.

Cases found guilty in Magistrate's Court can show on the parent's future DBS certificate due to 'failure to safeguard a child's education.'



Term Dates 2025-26

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Autumn Term 2025 - (73 Days)

Term Starts:

Wednesday 3rd September

Half-term Holiday:

Monday 27th Oct - Friday 31st Oct

Term Ends:

Friday 19th December, 2pm.

Spring Term 2026 - (55 Days)

Term Starts:

Monday 5th January

Half-term Holiday

Monday 16th Feb - Friday 20th Feb

Term Ends:

Friday 27th March, 2pm.

Summer Term 2026 - (62 Days)

Term Starts:

Monday 13th April

Half-term Holiday

Monday 25th May - Friday 29th May

Term Ends:

Thursday 16th July, 2pm.

Total Days:

190 Pupil days

195 Teacher days

Bank Holiday:

Monday 4th May

Inset Days:

Autumn 2025:

Monday 1st September

Tuesday 2nd September

Summer 2026:

Monday 1st June

Friday 17th July

Monday 20th July

www.englishmartyrs.co.uk

Wrap Around Care Offer

Breakfast Club:

Contact number: 0151 928 5601

We run Breakfast Club for children aged 3-11 on site by our own staff from **8am-8.45am** daily Monday to Friday.

Our Infant (**Nursery to Y2**) provision is based in the main hall (*enter via the Main School Entrance*).

Our Junior (**Y3 to Y6**) provision is based in the dining hall (*enter via the separate gate on School Lane*).

To check availability and book a place, please use the [Contact Form](#) or call the number above.



Fun4Kidz - After School Club:

Contact number: 0151 932 9218

Fun4Kidz operates on site from **3.15pm to 6.00pm** daily Monday to Friday.

Fun4Kidz works with our youngest pupils from **Nursery to Year 2**.

The sessions are **£11.15** first child (*and £10.15 for siblings*) daily and include snacks (*hot snacks when applicable*).

The sessions must be paid for in advance and are non-refundable if the child doesn't attend.

Children can be collected from any time before **6.00pm**.

Email: fun4kidzclubs@hotmail.com

L30 Community Centre, Stonyfield, Netherton, Merseyside, L30 0QS.

Need to know about funding?

If you want to find out more about what funding is available to you in terms of tax free credits and childcare vouchers, please follow the link at the bottom of the page, which will take you to our Wrap Around Care page on the school website with more information and links to follow.

For the latest info, see the page below:

<https://www.englishmartyrs.co.uk/parents/wrap-around-care>



Introducing Sefton Family Life Toolkit

We are pleased to share information about the Sefton Family Life Toolkit, a free online resource designed to support children, young people and families. The toolkit brings together trusted advice, local services and practical information all in one place. Parents and carers can access support on a wide range of topics including:

- **Parenting and family relationships**
- **Emotional health and wellbeing**
- **SEND information and guidance**
- **Education and school attendance**
- **Health and healthy lifestyles**
- **Activities, events and holiday programmes**
- **Local Family Hubs and community support**

Whether you are looking for advice, activities for your family, or additional support, the Family Life Toolkit provides easy access to information to help families thrive. Please visit the website today for further details: www.seftonfamilylife.com

Useful Info

Sefton Women's & Childrens Aid

Contact number: 0151 394 1400

SWACA provide holistic services to women, young people and children affected by Domestic Abuse offering both effective crisis intervention and early intervention and preventative services.

Venus Centre Charity

Contact number: 0151 474 4744

VENUS provide service to empower, promote and support women, and their children in developing their potential, recognising their choices and achieving their goals and challenging injustice.

The Trussell Trust

Contact number: 0151 933 1300

The trust supports a nationwide network of food banks and together they provide emergency food and support to people locked in poverty, and campaign for change to end the need for food banks in the UK.

In Your Shoes

Contact number: 0151 345 9611

Located at 100 Moss Lane the charity supports our local community.

Litherland Wellbeing Centre

Contact number: 0151 288 6661

Family Well-being Centres provide joined up support for children and young people aged 0-19 years to make family life that little bit easier.

Sefton Council

One Stop Shop: 0345 140 0845

Affordable Warmth Service: 0151 934 2222

Free School Meals: 0151 934 3263

Emergency Limited Assistance: 0151 934 3377

Sefton at Work: 0151 934 2610

For further details visit Sefton Council's website:

<https://www.sefton.gov.uk/advice-benefits/cost-of-living/>

If you are struggling and would like support please do not hesitate to contact one of the above or the school office who will assist in any way they can.